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Respectfully submitted to the  
Faculty of the Homoeopathic  
Medical College of Pennsylvania

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not stand up by B. Barr

by for all that of Pennsylvania

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However strange it may appear that one knowing so little from experience, should attempt to write upon a subject, embracing such a wide field of thought, as the theory of Psora, yet stranger still would it be if I did not raise my voice in its favour, for it has its opponents, when I have every reason to believe it to be true. I would be derelict in my duty as an Hahnemannian, if I did not stand up boldly and proudly for all that pertains to Hahnemann and to Homoeopathy. The theory of Psora, as laid down by Hahnemann in his work on chronic diseases, appears, by its own intrinsic merit, to have ex-



cited something akin to ridicule in the minds of our worthy allopathic Brethren. It would be hard for me to assign any other cause for it, than that it is too vast for their contracted intellects; hence the ridicule they would heap upon Hahnemann for his great discovery. I contend that positive and demonstrable proofs of it exist in the daily walk of every man, if he will but train his mind to observe and think. But, it appears to me as if some men had minds for nothing; as if they had been born but to eat and drink and sleep; and eat and drink and sleep again, as if they were



hibernating animals and not  
rational men.

As to all the ridicule and sneers  
that Allopathy can bring to  
bear upon the subject; it is  
as chaff before the wind, for  
they know nothing about it.  
It is characteristic of the human  
mind to differ, I know, and  
particularly upon great and  
leading points. For instance, one  
man will assert a thing or pub-  
lish to the world a discovery, wheth-  
er it be a theory or a truth it  
matters but little, wherein certain  
things are stated; another man  
will differ from him, not be-  
cause the thing asserted or  
the discovery published to the



world was not true in itself, but that a species of envy excites him to differ, because, he himself had not brains enough to discover and make known the same thing.

Hahnemann deserves and justly too, the praise of every Philanthropist and of every living being, for the great good he has done for suffering humanity by his discovery of the cause and treatment of Chronic diseases. There is no doubt in my mind but that a vast majority of all the Chronic diseases that afflict humanity at the present time have had their origin in Psora. We have suffi-



cient evidences of it in the sequelae of the various cutaneous diseases generally, on their suppression by violent means.

Take for instance scabies or the Itch itself: in its primitive form we have an external manifestation of the internal disease in the form of a number of small and millet shaped vesicles, filled with a transparent fluid, sometimes they are larger and filled with a pus-like matter, occurring mostly between the fingers, on the wrists and on the joints, and accompanied with a most voluptuous itching; on being scratched, the itching changes to a burning sensation, and



a number of other symptoms of little consequence for me to mention just now; if during this stage of the disease, the violent means allopathy usually employs in such cases, be had recourse to, as a matter of necessity, the only symptoms that can act as a guide in a judicious treatment, are repelled, and the patient is discharged cured, and the Physician consoles himself with the happy reflection that he has succeeded in curing that troublesome and loathsome local disease, the itch: but mark that patient through after years of his life, and you will as



surely find him afflicted with some of the secondary forms of Psora, as that he lives.

I look upon Psora as an intensely and powerfully acting miasm, resulting from the suppression of the various cutaneous diseases. It usually lies dormant within the system, waiting but a fitting moment to break forth in all its various forms: sometimes it will assume one form and sometimes another, just as the system is predisposed at the time.

A disposition to the abnormal play of the vital forces must coexist with the psoric miasm to produce a sensible vicarious



manifestation of the internal disease, or such a manifestation can never become apparent.

Disease only plainly shows itself when it has brought the healthy play of the vital forces within the sphere of its own abnormal condition. *then and always*

Why do we see cutaneous diseases of all kinds, on being repelled by means of the usual allopathic remedies in such cases, as ointments and washes of various kinds, reappear in some other form? Why does a scaly eruption on the fingers, with a great disposition to crack and bleed, on being repelled, assume the form of dyspepsia or haemmor-



rhoids or various other forms of  
 disease as I have seen again  
 and again? or any eruption,  
 why is it not permanently cured  
 when it is violently repelled from  
 the cutaneous surface? Why is  
 there a disposition to reappear  
 in some other and always  
 more aggravated form, for in-  
 stance pleurisy, dyspepsia, haem-  
 orrhoids, tubercular phthisis,  
 scrofula and a host of other  
 diseases too numerous to mention?  
 the answer to these questions  
 can only be in latent Psora,  
 or a psoric miasm pervading  
 every minute ramification  
 of the human organism.  
 This hydra-headed cause of hu-



man suffering has been accumulating in the system of man for ages and ages back, and it was only by mans progressive intelligence in regard to diet and other modes of life that he has been, in a great measure, able to keep it in abeyance.

But even with all his superior knowledge, it would sometimes manifest itself, now in one form and now in another, hence Cold Catarrh, rheumatism, gout &c; and how were all these various forms of disease treated, before Homoeopathy shed its benign influence over mans benighted intellect?



without knowing the true and  
 only source of such difficul-  
 ties the Physician erroneously  
 alleged various and oftentimes  
 purely imaginary characters  
 and phenomena to be their  
 cause, and hence treated, now  
 for a chill, catarrh or rheu-  
 matism, now for gout, con-  
 gestion of the portal system,  
 haemorrhoids, obstruction in  
 the lymphatic vessels, indura-  
 tions, morbid matters in the  
 blood, excess of mucus in the  
 alimentary canal, weakness  
 of the stomach and bowels  
 and whole digestive apparatus,  
 nervous debility, spasm, plethora,  
 chronic inflammation, swellings



of various kinds and so on:  
 imagining at the same time,  
 that a suppression of these va-  
 rious symptoms to be cures of  
 the cause, but after the passage  
 of a shorter or longer period,  
 other morbid phenomena would  
 make their appearance, how  
 then could the first state have  
 been the fundamental cause  
 when its removal (as was thought)  
 was not followed by a true cure?  
 no restoration to health? when  
 in place of the morbid phe-  
 nomenon that had been sup-  
 pressed, another and always  
 more formidable one made  
 its appearance? Whence was  
 originally derived the appar-



rent morbid character and  
 its attendant phenomena?  
 Whence was originally derived  
 the patient's liability to get cold,  
 Catarrh, rheumatism, haem-  
 orrhoids, gout, congestion of  
 the portal system, obstruction  
 in the lymphatic vessels, the  
 apparent acidity in the blood,  
 weakness of the stomach and  
 digestive organs, nervous debil-  
 ity, spasm, chronic inflam-  
 mation and so on? whence  
 did all these states originally  
 come? from an internal  
 psoric miasm, from latent  
 Pora.

Yet the Physician would assert  
 that his treatment was ration



al, when he had nought but an imaginary cause to base his treatment upon. He did not know the true source of such difficulties and hence his failure in permanently relieving the suffering organism. He avows that his treatment has been in vogue for nearly three thousand years and consequently must be correct, without reasoning with himself, at all, upon the subject, verily, that is going it blind.

Physicians of the old school know nothing about Psora, and more than that, they have obsti-



nately set themselves against knowing anything about it: that Hydra-headed cause of human suffering - would to God all men were disposed to do the greatest good with the smallest, in the shortest space of time, irrespective of every other consideration, the sun would not shine brighter, but more human beings would get the benefit of its healthful rays.

The cause of a great many acute affections is referable to the same source, as that of the majority of chronic diseases; we see for instance an acute



affection treated in usual way,  
with remedies, that are non-  
antipsoic in their tendency,  
without finding any benefit  
resulting from their use,  
although the existing symptoms  
under other circumstances would  
call the specific action of the  
remedy into play; yet you might  
continue your remedy, now using  
the lower and now the higher  
dilutions, until the life of your  
patient would be placed in  
jeopardy, wondering what  
all this meant, if you did  
not, in such an instance rec-  
ognise something beyond this  
sudden outburst of the dis-  
ease, that would unerringly



point to the antipsorics; and you would find that after having given the suitable antipsoric your previously selected remedies would have their specific effect.

Would not this be an evidence that some latent miasm existed in the system previous to and called into a vicarious manifestation by the acute attack? and would not this also be an evidence that the disease depended upon that miasm? I say yes, and I call that miasm Psora.